

## CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-18 (canceled)

Claim 19 (new): An integrated biochip system for sample preparation or analysis, comprising one or more chips,  
wherein at least one of said one or more chips is a multiple force chip,  
wherein said integrated biochip system can perform two or more sequential tasks,  
further wherein at least one of said two or more sequential tasks is a processing task.

Claim 20 (new): The integrated biochip system of claim 19, wherein said multiple force chip comprises at least one electromagnetic element.

Claim 21 (new): The integrated biochip system of claim 19, wherein said multiple force chip comprises at least one acoustic element.

Claim 22 (new): The integrated biochip system of claim 19, wherein said multiple force chip comprises at least one electrode.

Claim 23 (new): The integrated biochip system of claim 22, wherein said multiple force chip comprises a traveling wave dielectrophoresis electrode array layer.

Claim 24 (new): The integrated biochip system of claim 19, wherein said multiple force chip comprises a particle switch layer.

Claim 25 (new): The integrated biochip system of claim 19, further comprising at least one chamber.

Claim 26 (new): The integrated biochip system of claim 19, wherein one or more sample components can be moved from at least one area of at least one chip of said system to at least one other area of said at least one chip of said system by traveling wave dielectrophoresis.

Claim 27 (new): The integrated biochip system of claim 26, wherein one or more sample components can be moved from at least one area of at least one chip of said system to at least one other area of said at least one chip of said system by traveling wave magnetophoresis.

Claim 28 (new): The integrated biochip system of claim 19, wherein a sample applied to said integrated biochip system can remain continuously within said system from the beginning of the first of said two or more sequential tasks until the end of the last of said two or more sequential tasks performed by said system.

Claim 29 (new): The integrated biochip system of claim 28, wherein said integrated biochip system is automated.

Claim 30 (new): The integrated biochip system of claim 19, wherein said one or more chips is two or more chips.

Claim 31 (new): The integrated biochip system of claim 30,  
wherein said at least two of said two or more chips can be, for at least a part  
of the time during the operation of the integrated biochip system, in fluid  
communication with one another.

Claim 32 (new):       The integrated biochip system of claim 31,  
                          wherein one or more sample components can be moved from at least one of said  
                          two or more chips to at least one other of said two or more chips by a mechanism  
                          other than fluid flow.

Claim 33 (new):       The integrated biochip system of claim 32,  
                          wherein sample components can be moved from at least one of said two or more  
                          chips to at least one other of said two or more chips by \ traveling wave  
                          dielectrophoresis or traveling wave magnetophoresis.

Claim 34 (new):       The integrated biochip system of claim 30,  
                          wherein at least one of said two or more chips is a passive chip.

Claim 35 (new):       The integrated biochip system of claim 30,  
                          wherein at least two of said two or more chips are active chips.

Claim 36 (new):       The integrated biochip system of claim 37,  
                          wherein at least one of said active chips is a particle switch chip.